

PRE-APPLICATION SPECIAL EDITION

#LongRoadLife

LONG ROAD SIXTH FORM COLLEGE APPLICANT NEWSLETTER

BE AMAZED. BE INSPIRED. BE LONG ROAD.

Welcome to #LongRoadLife - our Long Road Sixth Form College applicant newsletter!

This special pre-application edition of #LongRoadLife is jam-packed full of key information about our college; from class sizes to student support, and articles that we hope you will find useful in helping you decide on your subject choices. We will also give you an overview of our admissions process and what you can expect from Long Road in the months ahead.

If you decide to make an application to study with us in September 2024 you'll be hearing a lot more from #LongRoadLife and our friendly team behind the scenes - we can't wait to get to know you throughout the admission process!

Best wishes,
Long Road



OUR APPLICATION
PROCESS

GETTING TO COLLEGE:
YOUR TRAVEL OPTIONS

A LEVEL VS. APPLIED

CREATING YOUR
STUDY PROGRAMME

WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A
LONG ROAD STUDENT

STUDENT SUPPORT



KEY DATES

9 January 2024

=

Application Deadline.

15 & 16 February 2024

=

Advice and Guidance Meetings take place

4 & 5 July 2024

=

Applicant Welcome Days

22 August 2024

=

GCSE Results Day

Late August / Early September 2024

=

New Student Enrolment



BE LONG ROAD:

CLICK HERE TO APPLY NOW!

STEP 1: APPLICATION

Long Road welcomes applications from all students, regardless of the school you currently attend. All applications are treated on the same basis.

The deadline for September 2024 study is on 9 January 2024 – your school may have an internal deadline for you to finish your application before this date, check this with your tutor or careers advisor.

Applications made after the 9 January 2024 will be considered but may be placed on a waiting list if the college is oversubscribed.

Your school will support you with making your application and writing your personal statement. If you need any help with your application please talk to your tutor.

STEP 2: ADVICE AND GUIDANCE MEETINGS

Shortly after the application deadline, the online booking will open for our Virtual Advice and Guidance Meetings. The first round of meetings will take place on 15 & 16 February 2024 and continue throughout the Spring and Summer terms.

Our Advice & Guidance Meetings are informal discussions, lasting around 25 minutes, with an experienced member of our staff. You will discuss your subjects, extracurricular interests and career aspirations with your interviewer, who will be able to offer advice and guidance on your study programme. It is also your opportunity to discuss any additional support you may require. Your parent/carer is encouraged to attend your Advice and Guidance Meeting with you.



BE LONG ROAD: **CLICK HERE TO APPLY NOW!**

STEP 3: OFFER TO STUDY

Shortly after your Advice and Guidance Meeting, your interviewer will update your Admissions+ application account with your chosen courses and conditional offer. You will be sent a confirmation email alerting you to the update. Once you have received this confirmation email, you need to log in to your Admissions+ account to accept the offer.

Accepting your offer to study secures your place of study with us (*subject to meeting minimum entry requirements*) and means you will be invited to our Welcome Days in the summer term.

Remember, you can accept and hold offers from multiple colleges before making your final decision on GCSE results day.

STEP 4: APPLICANT WELCOME DAYS

If you accept your offer to study you will be invited to attend one of our Welcome Days on either 4 or 5 July 2024.

Our Welcome Days are designed to give you a first-hand experience of life as a Long Road student. You will spend the day in timetabled lessons, trying out the subjects you have applied to study with us. This also gives you the opportunity to meet your potential classmates and teachers.

STEP 5: GCSE RESULTS DAY & ENROLMENT

GCSE results day is taking place on 22 August 2024. This will kick start our enrolment process, to be held from late August to early September 2024.

KEY CONTACTS

When making your application your first point of contact should be your tutor.

Our friendly Admissions Team will be happy to help you throughout the application process!

Julianna Sosnowska
Director of Admissions

Lydia Cottage
Admissions Officer

Email:
admissions@longroad.ac.uk

Phone: **01223 63 1125**





SHUTTLE BUS TIMETABLE

Daily Morning Buses:

Collect from
Cambridge Train Station,
Bus Stop 4:
8:10am, 8:40am &
10:25am.

Monday, Thursday, Friday Afternoon Buses:

Collect from Long Road:
2pm & 4:20pm.

Tuesday & Wednesday Afternoon Buses:

Collect from Long Road:
12:30pm & 4:20pm.

Shuttle Bus travel time is
approximately 15
minutes.

GETTING TO COLLEGE: YOUR TRAVEL OPTIONS

PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY:

If you're not sure what your journey to college will look like then a travel planner is a great place to start. [Click here](#) to visit our website and use our journey planner.

LONG ROAD SHUTTLE BUS

To support our students in their journey to college we provide a FREE Shuttle Bus that runs between Long Road and Cambridge Train Station (Bus Stop 4).

The Shuttle Bus is exclusively for Long Road students, simply show your Student ID Card when you board the bus!

Take a look at the orange box on this page to see our current Shuttle Bus Timetable.

TRAVEL FROM WITCHFORD

Most students living in Witchford travel to college via train.

Students travelling by train should make their way to Ely Railway Station either via car, or the Ely Zipper Bus. Students should then catch a train to Cambridge Railway Station. Train travel time is approximately 20 minutes.

From Cambridge Railway Station students can walk or catch the FREE Shuttle Bus to Long Road.

Please note: At the time of writing (December 2023) all information is believed to be correct. Public transport routes and timetables are frequently updated, please check with your travel provider for updated information.





GETTING TO COLLEGE: YOUR TRAVEL OPTIONS

TRAVELLING BY TRAIN

Cambridge Railway Station is the closest station to the College approximately 1.5 miles away.

The college runs its own FREE Shuttle Bus for Long Road students from Bus Stop 4 at Cambridge Railway station throughout the College day. Alternatively, the walk from Cambridge Railway Station is approximately a 25-minute walk.

Students who travel by rail may be able to receive discounted travel by visiting:

- www.16-17saver.co.uk
(please note this is not valid after your 18th birthday)
- [Great Northern](#)
- [Greater Anglia](#)

For more information on train routes and timetables please [click here to visit the National Rail Enquires website.](#)

HELP WITH TRANSPORT COSTS

Your local County Council might be able to assist with the cost of transport. Please contact them in the first instance to check eligibility and request a Post-16 Educational Transport application form.

If support is not available via your local County Council, then we may be able to help. Please click here for more information on the [16-18 Discretionary Bursary.](#)

CYCLING TO COLLEGE

We encourage students to join us in going green by using sustainable options, such as public transport, walking or cycling.

We have numerous bike racks and a OFO bike sharing station on-campus. We also have a bike maintenance stand available for all students to use. It contains a range of essential tools, including a pump.

There is no student parking available on-campus or in the surrounding area.





KEY INFORMATION

Average Class Size
= 20 students

Maximum Class Size
= 26 students

College Day
= 9am - 4:10pm

Year 1 Student Lunch =
12:25pm - 1:05pm

Lesson Duration
= 1.5 hours

Weekly Lesson Time
= 14 hours

Recommended Weekly
Independent Study
Time
= 12 hours



WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A LONG ROAD STUDENT

Studying at Long Road is different to studying at school. We recognise you as an individual and treat you as an adult. Not all of your learning will be in classrooms; you'll hear lectures and attend workshops led by experts related to your study programme and future goals.

At Long Road you will be taught by highly qualified and experienced subject specialist teachers. Our small class sizes (maximum 26 students) allow for high levels of student participation in mature group discussions, encouraging you to develop and express your opinions.

The college day runs from 9am - 4:10pm, but unlike school you won't spend all day in classes. Independent study periods allow you to work on assignments, carry out research and explore your course in depth outside of the classroom.

You will have 3 lessons per subject per week, meaning you spend just over 14 hours per week in classes.

We recommend 4 hours per subject per week for independent study, totalling 12 hours per week, and an additional 1 hour planning for the week ahead. This adds up to 27 hours, 10 hours short of a working week. If you use your independent study periods wisely you'll be able to keep every evening and weekend free to enjoy!

College life isn't all about academic study; it's a time to meet new people and try out new experiences. Our enrichment activities are a great way for you to explore your passions and get to meet other students outside the classroom. Maybe you've already got a keen interest - or maybe you're looking for a new hobby - either way we're sure to have something that you want to get involved in.



A LEVEL VS. APPLIED

At Long Road we offer you the flexibility to study both A Levels, Applied courses or a mix of both! You've probably already heard of A Levels, but what is an applied subject? And how do you decide whether an A Level or an Applied course is right for you?

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A LEVEL'S & APPLIED COURSES?

The main difference is the way that you're assessed; Applied subjects will contain a larger element of coursework assessment, whereas A Levels are mostly assessed by exams at the end of your 2 years of study.

This means for an Applied course you will have to work continuously towards assessments throughout your 2 years of study. Whereas on an A Level course you'll find there are more intense periods

depending on how close you are to exam season and key assessments (*internal assessments that don't count towards your final grade, but monitor your academic progress*).

ARE APPLIED SUBJECTS EASIER THAN A LEVEL?

The idea that applied subjects are an easier option is a myth. How easy you find A Level or Applied subjects will depend on your preferred working and assessment style.

If you are someone that struggles to meet your homework deadlines, but thrives under the pressure of exams, then A Levels may be 'easier' for you. If you find that you find that you are particularly anxious around exams, or struggle with the intensity of revision during the exam period, then an Applied subject could suit you better.

MYTH BUSTING

"Applied courses are easier than A Levels"
= **False!**

How easy you find a course depends on your personal working style. Applied courses contain more coursework, so if you struggle with meeting deadlines you may find them tricky. On the other-hand, if you struggle with exams you might find A Level's harder.

"You can't go to university if you study Applied subjects"
= **False!**

Applied subjects are widely accepted by universities - even the top tier Russell Group Universities





HOW DO I CHOOSE?

Think about your learning style

If you find it easier to learn new concepts by using hands-on experience? If yes, then Applied could be best for you!

What assessment style do you prefer?

If you thrive under the pressure of exams then it sounds like you're more suited to A Levels.

Mix and match!

Lots of students mix and match Applied and A Level courses to get the best of both qualifications!

A LEVEL VS. APPLIED

CAN I GET INTO UNIVERSITY WITH APPLIED SUBJECTS?

Yes! Even top tier Russell Group Universities (*including Oxford and Cambridge*) are now accepting students who studied Applied subjects.

Universities typically view Applied subjects as equivalent to A Level, so you're not disadvantaging yourself or restricting your progression options by studying an Applied course.

If you do have a specific university or degree course in mind already that you would like to study then it is worth looking up the entry requirements to see if they ask specifically for certain subjects or qualifications as this may inform your Sixth Form course choices.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF APPLIED COURSES?

Applied courses can be taken at 3 different levels...

Extended Certificate

- This course is worth 60 credits, the equivalent to studying 1 A Level.

Diploma

- This course is worth 120 credits, the equivalent to studying 2 A Level's.

Extended Diploma

- This course is worth 180 credits, the equivalent to studying 3 A Level's.

You can mix and match A Level and Applied courses, but your study programme must add up to the equivalent of 180 credits, for example...

- 3 A Level courses
- 1 Extended Certificate course and 2 A Level courses
- 1 Extended Diploma course





WHY SHOULD I STUDY EPQ?

Depending on the grade you achieve you can gain up to 28 additional UCAS points!

Universities look at EPQ as an excellent way for students to prepare for degree level study. It demonstrates your dedication to independent learning. In fact, it's so highly valued that some universities will lower their grade boundaries if you achieve a high EPQ grade!



EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

Boost your CV and enhance your personal statement while carrying out an independent project on a topic you love. The EPQ is equivalent to half an A Level, but it's so much more than an extra qualification.

The Extended Project Qualification showcases to employers and universities that you're an independent learner, able to manage a project, solve problems, organise your time, conduct original research and produce a high-quality product.

Independence is key with the EPQ, meaning you get to choose what you'd like to study and how you'd like to study it. The topic can be related to your other subjects or can be something completely different, allowing you to explore your other passions.

You can decide how you present your final product. You can...

- write a dissertation
- create an artefact
- produce a performance
- carry out an investigation.

If you decide to carry out the EPQ you'll start at the end of Year 1 of your Level 3 course, giving you time to think about your goals after Long Road and tailor your EPQ to help achieve these dreams.

Although the EPQ is largely independent study, you'll have a specialised EPQ tutor to keep you on track and regular lessons to help you to understand the requirements of the qualification.



CREATING YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

At Long Road, we offer a wide selection of courses ranging from STEM, Humanities, Visual and Performance Arts to Social Sciences, Language, and Sport.

We offer you the opportunity to study both A Levels and Level 3 Applied courses - mixing and matching your subjects to create a study programme that is as unique as you are.

If you need to, you can retake GCSE Maths or English alongside your Level 3 study programme. If you're looking to boost your GCSE studies you can take Level 2 Diplomas or GCSEs in a 1-year transition programme. After completion, you can apply to continue your Level 3 studies at Long Road.

Already got an idea of what you want to study at University,

which apprenticeship you want to apply for, or the career path you want to follow? Then it's a good idea to look at their entry requirements before choosing your course combination.

Your place at Long Road is determined by your grades, school reference and attending an Advice and Guidance Meeting. Each course offered includes entry requirements, which must be met in order to gain a place with us.

Our basic entry requirements are:

- A Levels: Five GCSEs at Grade 5
- Applied: Five GCSEs at Grade 4

[Please click here for individual course entry requirements.](#)

OUR COURSES

You can select from three different pathways at Level 3 to best suit your career aims and interests. You may choose an A Level only route, an Applied only route or a pathway that includes A Level and Applied courses.

[Please click here](#) to visit our website for a full list of our courses.

Individual course entry requirements can be found on each course page.

[Please click here](#) for more information on each style of qualification we offer.





Long Road Scholars' Award

Long Road Sixth Form College

WIN £500 AS A REWARD FOR YOUR EXCELLENT GCSE RESULTS.

If you're predicted to achieve outstanding GCSE results (**average GCSE Grade 8 or above**) you can apply for the Long Road Scholars' Award.

We'll give you **£500** to spend on whatever you like - examples from our current scholars include: travel costs, overseas trips & film equipment!

APPLY ONLINE TODAY
WWW.LONGROAD.AC.UK



SCHOLARS' AWARD

We are delighted to be able to offer a number of Scholars' Awards to hard-working, high-achieving and ambitious students who have applied to study at our friendly and supportive college.

A Scholar's Award would enable you to take part in additional, 'super-curricular', activities to help you excel in your subjects and aspire to the highest possible achievement in your study programme.

Each Award is worth £500.

How you spend your award would be entirely your decision, but examples of ways that you could enrich your learning include:

- UK or overseas travel;
- attendance at exhibitions, conferences;
- purchase of additional items such as art supplies or photographic equipment.

Scholar Award applications will be considered from students who:

- are predicted to achieve an average GCSE Grade 8 or above.
- are applying to study on an A Level / Level 3 programme of study.
- once enrolled at Long Road, have an attendance of 95% or above for their first half-term of study (September - October).

To make an application please click here.

Applications received after the deadline of 4pm on Friday 26 April 2024 may still be considered at the discretion of the Principal.

Applications will be reviewed after the October half-term. Students will be contacted as to the success of their application in early November.

SCHOLAR ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Participating in regular Long Road Scholars' Meetings to give feedback and support the college to continually improve student experience.
- Representing the college at a range of college events as a Student Ambassador.
- Supporting future students in learning about the college by supporting outreach activities and providing written pieces for the college website.





SUPPORT FROM YOUR PROGRESS COACH:

- Ongoing individual support on how to achieve and get the most out of your time with us.
- Guidance on building your own learning plan so you can see what you need to achieve and how to monitor your progress and performance.
- Help creating your own personal progression plan, with advice on careers, apprenticeships and university pathways.



BE YOUR BEST: SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

YOUR PROGRESS COACH

When you join us as a student you'll be assigned a Progress Coach, similar to a tutor that you may currently have at school. You'll keep the same Progress Coach throughout your 2 years of study, building an excellent professional relationship with them so they can best support you to achieve your goals.

Your personal Progress Coach will give you tailored advice to help you successfully achieve your career goals. You will attend weekly group tutorials where you will research different routes into your chosen career and identify what pathway best suits your needs and goals.

Ongoing individual support from your Progress Coach means you can get the most out of your study programme.

They will continuously oversee your academic progress, updating you and your family on your achievements. Using this information, you and your Progress Coach will work together to create your own learning plan so you can identify your strengths and clearly see what you need to achieve and monitor your own academic performance.

Your Progress Coach will also be the key point of contact for your parents / carers. They will get in touch with them to share your outstanding achievements, or to work together on how you can best be supported.

STUDENT STUDY SUPPORT

No matter what courses you study with us, we can provide you with support in workshop sessions led by specialists focusing on study skills, time



BE YOUR BEST: SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

management, essay writing and exam techniques.

Study sessions are held twice a week and are a great way to get help with homework, catch up on areas where you need extra support, improve your literacy skills and work on your UCAS personal statement.

As you work towards those all-important exams you will be invited to our workshops on a range of topics such as revision, wellbeing and exam preparation. All of our study skill resources are available online so you can access them wherever and whenever you need them.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Whatever challenges you face, our dedicated support team will work with you and your

family to ensure you achieve the best that you can.

Our team of qualified specialist tutors can provide formal and informal assessments of your individual learning needs.

If you have an EHC plan we will develop individual learning programmes.

We welcome students from international communities, offering you extra support with specialist teachers if English is your second language.

All buildings have ready access for wheelchair users. We provide classroom and general assistance if required for students with physical impairments.

YOUR WELFARE & WELLBEING

We understand that starting at college is a big step and can feel overwhelming, which is totally normal!

We have lots of ways of supporting all students at Long Road – your welfare and wellbeing is our highest priority.

For more information on our welfare and wellbeing support, [please click here.](#)



RUSSELL GROUP PREPARATION PROGRAMME



If you're aspiring to study at the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford or any Russell Group University, you can join our Russell Group Preparation Programme to support you in your application to the UK's most competitive universities.

You will take part in carefully planned workshops and seminars throughout your first year of study to support you in your application to the UK's most competitive universities. These discussions are thought-provoking and give our students interesting material to include in their personal statements.

During your second year of study, you will receive one-to-one support from recent Oxbridge alumni when writing your personal statements. If you are successfully selected for an interview you will receive multiple mock interviews with recent Oxford and Cambridge University alumni.



**RUSSELL GROUP
PREPARATION
PROGRAMME**

Long Road Sixth Form College



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